

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
FOR WEEK ENDING 17-May-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 05/17/03	PREVIOUS WEEK 05/10/03
BRO-FRY	159,986	158,275
LT HENS	1,626	1,729
HVY HENS	1,394	1,412

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
WEEK ENDING 10-May-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	98	0	98
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	279	3	282
SAME WEEK YR AGO	352	4	356
TO-DATE/2003	5,206	68	5,274
TO-DATE/2002	6,225	24	6,249

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,684	1,364	3,048
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	2,125	1,212	3,337
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,360	1,284	3,644
TO-DATE/2003	37,408	25,128	62,536
TO-DATE/2002	41,266	24,980	66,246

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 10-May-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	155,587	1,586	1,364	2,950
AVG WT	5.20	3.40	8.02	5.54
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	156,760	1,846	1,209	3,055
SAME WK YR AGO	158,061	2,008	1,280	3,288
AVG WT	5.24	3.37	7.91	5.14
TO-DATE/2003	2,853,275	32,202	25,060	57,262
TO-DATE/2002	2,919,072	35,041	24,956	59,997

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 159.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 157.5 million head or 1.7 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING May 03,03**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE	(B) RETAIL	(C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN	4.21-5.25 LBS	5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	23,416	20,909	52,871
Avg Weight	3.77	4.75	6.15
% of total /1	24%	22%	54%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	28,712	24,779	44,172
Avg Weight	3.88	4.85	6.01
% of total /1	29%	25%	45%
Same week, yr ago /2	29,458	25,525	57,829
Avg Weight	3.75	4.69	6.07
% of total /1	26%	23%	51%
To date/2003	435,699	407,340	776,925
To date/2002	548,537	426,802	853,539

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 10-May-2003
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,123	2,910	96	5	5,134
AVG WT	15.99	37.41	28.20	36.52	28.38
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,916	2,925	72	30	4,943
SAME WK YR AGO	2,002	2,781	40	7	4,830
AVG WT	15.74	36.42	20.00	27.32	27.70
TO-DATE/2003	33,124	51,060	1,144	288	85,616
TO-DATE/2002	34,059	49,747	820	137	84,763

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.